

REGION 1 WORKS COUNCIL

MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER 18, 2013

Current Indiana Career Clusters

- Agriculture
- Arts, A/V, and Communication
- Education & Training
- Hospitality & Human Services
- Manufacturing
- Transportation
- Architecture & Construction
- Business & Marketing
- Health Science
- Information Technology
- Public Safety

Current Career & Tech Education Program Areas

- Agriculture
- Business, Marketing & Information Technology
- Co-op Education & Internships
- Engineering & Technology Education
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Health Science
- Trade & Industrial Education

THERE IS A NEED FOR: Engineering & Engineering Technology Career Cluster w/ an Industrial Maintenance Pathway

Engineers are needed in every major industry and for every major infrastructure project on the horizon. Mechanical and electrical skills, knowledge and abilities (SKA's) are also needed by every Key Industry Driver of the economy.

Forecasted Key Drivers of the Indiana Economy (according to the IN Business Research Center)

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Life Sciences
- Defense/Aerospace
- Logistics
- Energy

Major Regional Projects on Horizon

Infrastructure Upgrades

- Energy
- Highways
- Railroad Expansion
- Gary Airport Expansion
- Move to Automation
- Agribusiness (vs. family farms)

The group discussed gaps between the existing Career Clusters/Pathways/CTE Programs and the talent needs of business in the state. It will be critical to realign educational resources so students are adequately prepared to assume the technical positions needed to keep the

Indiana economy strong. It is not in anyone's best interest to allow students to prepare for careers that are not in demand in Indiana.

Next Steps to Improve Career & Tech Education Opportunities

- Improved communication & awareness with and for Parents and Students
- Explore barriers that keep students from participating in CTE
- Build industry partnerships between K – 12 and post-secondary to provide CTE
- Make recommendations on re-alignment of Career Clusters and Pathways
- Look for ways to improve the IMAGE of Career and Tech Education
- Educate parents on the benefits of Career and Tech Education
- Look at other innovative models
 - Industry Sector Academies

Magnitude of Challenges

- Great
- Misalignment between Education and Workforce needs
- NOT ENOUGH STUDENTS in CTE Pipeline
 - Declining enrollments
 - Lack of awareness of programs & opportunities
- Conflicting graduation requirements
- High need for remediation
- We have to get this RIGHT – It affects our economy!

The group agreed to continue these discussions at our next meeting, October 18, 2013 at the Porter County Career Center, in Valparaiso.